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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

URSULA ZIEGLER ET AL

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure, applicant submits herewith references which may be material to the examination of the above-captioned application. Specifically, the information comprises references referred to in the European Search Report dated April 25, 2002, in corresponding application EP 02 00 3037, a copy of which is enclosed.

## **Certification**

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from the European Patent Office in the counterpart European Application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

It is believed that all the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 have been satisfied. It is therefore respectfully requested that this Disclosure Statement and the enclosed references be considered and made of record.

It is believed that no fee is due upon the filing of this information disclosure statement. However, in the event the undersigned is mistaken, and the Office requires additional fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit any deficiency or credit any overpayment of the fees required by 37 CFR 1.56 and 1.97-1.98 to the undersigned's Deposit Account, No. 03-2775. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

**CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP** 

Βv

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RMB/alh/208802